

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ In a system having means for providing a conjugated beam and a non-conjugated beam, a spatial filter comprising:

means for increasing angular spread of said non-conjugated energy beam and

means for suppressing said angular spread non-conjugated ~~energy beam~~ without suppressing said conjugated beam.

2. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said means for increasing angular spread includes an aberrator.

3. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein the aberrator is an amplifier.

4. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said means for suppressing includes an opaque plate with a pinhole aperture therethrough.

5. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said means for suppressing includes ~~a~~ highly angle-selective thick Bragg grating.

6. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 further including first and second lenses disposed on opposite sides of said means for suppressing.

7. (Currently Amended) A phase conjugate master oscillator/power amplifier laser architecture comprising:

a master oscillator adapted to output a laser beam;

a power amplifier beamline in optical alignment with said beam;

means for creating a beam having phase conjugate energy and non-conjugated energy; and

at least one spatial filter in alignment with said amplifier, said filter having means for increasing angular spread of said non-conjugate energy in said beam and means for

suppressing said spread non-conjugate energy in said beam without suppressing said conjugated energy in said beam.

8. (Original) The invention of Claim 7 wherein said beamline includes plural amplifiers.

9. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim 8 further including a spatial filter between ~~one or more of~~ at least two of said amplifiers.

10. (Currently Amended) A loop phase conjugate resonator comprising:

first means for providing an interference pattern;

an amplifier in alignment with said first means; and

a spatial filter in alignment with the amplifier and adapted to increase the angular spread of non-conjugate energy in a beam amplified by said amplifier and suppress said spread non-conjugate energy in said beam without suppressing non-conjugated energy therein.

11. (Original) The invention of Claim 10 wherein said spatial filter includes an aperture.

12. (Original) The invention of Claim 10 wherein said spatial filter includes an aberrator.

13. (Original) The invention of Claim 10 wherein said spatial filter further includes first and second lenses.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for spatial filtering including the steps of:

providing a conjugated beam and a non-conjugated beam;

increasing angular spread of said non-conjugated energy beam and

suppressing said angular spread non-conjugated ~~energy beam~~ without suppressing said conjugated beam.

15. (Currently Amended) A phase conjugating method comprising the steps of:
providing a laser beam;
conjugating at least a portion of said beam;
increasing angular spread of said non-conjugate energy in said beam; and
suppressing said spread non-conjugate energy in said beam without suppressing
said energy of said conjugated beam.